

Message Text

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ORIGIN EB-07

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 TRSE-00 AID-05 AGR-05 L-03
FRB-03 OMB-01 ITC-01 SP-02 USIA-06 CIAE-00
COME-00 INR-07 LAB-04 NSAE-00 OIC-02 EPG-02
SIL-01 STR-04 CEA-01 AF-10 ARA-10 EA-07 EUR-12
NEA-10 SS-15 NSC-05 /137 R

DRAFTED BY EB/IFD/ODF:AADAMS:ME
APPROVED BY EB:PHBOEKER
EB/FSE:WMILAM
EB/BP:WLOCKWOOD
EB/GCP:SAHMAD
EB/ORF:MBOERNER
TREASURY:EC:ASE
AID/PPC:KJAY
IO/IEP:EBRUCE EB/IFD:CFMEISSNER
EB/OMA:BCROWE EB/IFD/ODF:JABWINDER
-----111855Z 039168 /42
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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: UNCTAD

SUBJECT: TDB MINISTERIAL

REF: GENEVA 4051

1. DEPARTMENT APPRECIATES MISSION'S THOUGHTFUL VIEWS ON
ROLE OF UNCTAD IN POST-CIEC PERIOD (REFTEL) AND AGREES
THAT TDB MINISTERIAL WILL BE AN IMPORTANT DECISION POINT
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IN DEFINING THE ORGANIZATION'S PLACE IN THE OVERALL
NORTH/SOUTH INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK.

2. WE HAVE NOTED IN GENEVA 4426 UNCTAD SECRETARIAT CON-
SIDERATION OF POSTPONEMENT OF TDB MINISTERIAL UNTIL 1978.
SUCH POSTPONEMENT WOULD APPEAR TO SERVE OUR INTEREST AND
MISSION SHOULD ENCOURAGE THIS DEVELOPMENT IN WHATEVER WAY

OFFERS BEST CHANCE OF REINFORCING PROSPECT OF POSTPONEMENT. A MINISTERIAL SESSION SO SOON AFTER CIEC WOULD OFFER LITTLE OPPORTUNITY FOR NEW PROGRESS, GIVEN MAJOR EFFORT INDUSTRIAL COUNTRY GOVERNMENTSEXPENDED ON CIEC AND WILL NEED TO EXPEND IN FOLLOW THROUGH ON DECISIONS REACHED AT SUMMIT AND CIEC. PROSPECT OF G-77 DISAPPOINTMENT WOULD, THEREFORE, BE HIGH. EARLY UNCTAD/TDB MINISTERIAL AND COINCIDENCE OF MINISTERIAL WITH UNGA WOULD INCREASE POTENTIAL FOR JURISDICTIONAL WRANGLES AT TDB. WE WOULD PROBABLY BE IN A BETTER POSITION

IN 1978 FOR A TDB MINISTERIAL DISCUSSION OF THE POST-CIEC ROLE OF UNCTAD. AT THAT POINT, HOPEFULLY, PROGRESS IN MTN ON TRADE ISSUES, IMF AND JOINT DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE ON FINANCE CUM DEBT ISSUES, INDIVIDUAL UNCTAD COMMODITY NEGOTIATIONS AND COMMON FUND TALKS WOULD HAVE EFFECTIVELY LODGED MANY ISSUES WE WISH TO RESIDE IN FUNCTIONALLY-SPECIFIC FORUMS IN JUST SUCH FORUMS.

3. LATER MINISTERIAL MAY BE AN AUSPICIOUS OPPORTUNITY TO CLARIFY UNCTAD'S WORK IN RELATION TO OTHER FUNCTIONAL FORA, SUCH AS THE JOINT DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE, THE IMF, GATT, ETC. ALTERNATIVELY--AND THIS IS A REAL DANGER--A PREMATURE MINISTERIAL WOULD BECOME A VEHICLE FOR EXPANDING UNCTAD'S LIMITED MANDATES IN AREAS SUCH AS MONETARY AFFAIRS, DEBT AND OFFICIAL TRANSFERS WHICH WE WOULD LIKE TO SEE HANDLED ELSEWHERE.

4. GIVEN THE CIEC BACKGROUND, AND UNCTAD'S AMBITIONS TO ENHANCE ITS ROLE IN ALL NORTH/SOUTH ISSUES, IT SEEMS TO LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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US THAT OUR PRIMARY OBJECTIVE AT THE MINISTERIAL SHOULD BE TO AFFIRM IN A POSITIVE SPIRIT AREAS WHERE UNCTAD CAN PLAY A USEFUL ROLE WITHOUT PREJUDGING CONSIDERATION OF THE PARTICULAR SENSITIVE MONETARY AND OTHERS ISSUES WE WISH TO TAKE UP IN MORE APPROPRIATE FORA.

5. WHAT WE HAVE IN MIND IS NOT A DEBATE ON THE INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK OF THE NORTH/SOUTH DIALOGUE AFTER CIEC, BUT A MINISTERIAL AGENDA--DEFINED AS SPECIFICALLY AS POSSIBLE--WHICH WOULD SERVE TO STRUCTURE UNCTAD'S WORK IN THE INTERIM BEFORE THE 5TH CONFERENCE. IN YOUR B GROUP CONSULTATIONS JUNE 13-17 WE SUGGEST YOU FIRST ASSESS THE PROSPECT FOR POSTPONEMENT AND WHAT CAN BE DONE TO ENCOURAGE THIS. SHOULD A FALL TDB MINISTERIAL NEVERTHELESS APPEAR LIKELY WE SUGGEST THE FOLLOWING OUTLINE OF A MINISTERIAL AGENDA IN KEEPING WITH THE PRINCIPLE IN RESOLUTION 90(IV) THAT THE MINISTERIAL SHOULD FOCUS ON A NUMBER OF IMPORTANT POLICY AREAS AND NOT EXCLUSIVELY ON DEBT OR RELATED QUESTIONS.

(A) A REVIEW OF UNCTAD'S WORK SINCE NAIROBI IN TECHNOLOGY, MANUFACTURERS, AND COMMODITIES AND A REAFFIRMATION OF ITS MANDATE IN THESE TRADITIONAL AREAS. IN SUGGESTING THIS TOPIC, WE DO NOT INTEND A FULL SCALE SUBSTANTIVE DEBATE, ALTHOUGH WE RECOGNIZE THE RISKS THAT THE G-77 WILL WANT TO USE THIS ITEM TO RENEW PRESSURES FOR CONCESSIONS. TO MINIMIZE THIS RISK, WE WOULD NEED TO MAKE VERY CLEAR THAT DISCUSSION OF THESE TOPICS SHOULD BE LIMITED TO A NEUTRAL PROGRESS REPORT BY THE SECRETARIAT OF WHERE MATTERS NOW STAND AND OF WHAT REMAINS TO BE DONE AND THAT THE

SECRETARIAT SHOULD KEEP CLEARLY IN MIND THE JURISDICTIONS OF OTHER ORGANIZATIONS (E.G. GATT/MTN, WIPO). WE WOULD OPPOSE FOR EXAMPLE ANY DISCUSSION ON A COMMON FUND AT THE MINISTERIAL, SINCE A FULL SCALE NEGOTIATING CONFERENCE ON THIS SUBJECT IS SCHEDULED IN UNCTAD FOR NOVEMBER.
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DISCUSSION SHOULD BE LIMITED TO A REVIEW OF PROGRESS ON SPECIFIC COMMODITY NEGOTIATIONS.

(B) IN KEEPING WITH UNCTAD RESOLUTION 98 (IV) AND TDB DECISION 149 (SVI), A GENERAL REVIEW OF THE FINANCIAL AND DEVELOPMENTAL SITUATIONS OF THE LEAST DEVELOPED AND OF MEASURES BEING TAKEN BY DONORS TO ENHANCE ASSISTANCE TO THESE COUNTRIES. WE RECOGNIZE THAT THIS RESOLUTION MENTIONS INTER ALIA DEBT OF THE LEAST DEVELOPED BUT HOPE THAT THIS ASPECT WILL BE DOWN PLAYED TO THE MAXIMUM EXTENT POSSIBLE IN THE CONTEXT OF THE ENTIRE RANGE OF LDC ISSUES. THEREFORE, WE SHOULD STRONGLY OPPOSE ANY ATTEMPT TO NEGOTIATE USE OF DEBT RELIEF AS A FORM OF RESOURCE TRANSFER. FOR REASONS STATED BY A MAJORITY OF B GROUP AT THE 16TH SESSION OF THE TDB, OCTOBER 1976, WE CONSIDER ANY OBLIGATIONS REGARDING LLDC DEBT PURSUANT TO RESOLUTION 98 (IV) TO

HAVE BEEN SATISFIED FULLY AND WOULD OPPOSE ANY EFFORTS TO MAKE LLDC DEBT A SEPARATE AGENDA ITEM.

(C) A REVIEW OF THE ACTIONS TAKEN IN ACCORDANCE WITH RESOLUTION 94 (IV) SPECIFICALLY AND EXCLUSIVELY PARA TWO WHICH STATES "INVITES APPROPRIATE EXISTING INTERNATIONAL FORA TO DETERMINE BEFORE THE END OF 1976, WHAT FEATURES MIGHT USEFULLY BE DISCERNED FROM PAST OPERATIONS, TOGETHER WITH OTHERS THAT MIGHT BE IDENTIFIED IN THE LIGHT OF THE PRESENT SITUATION OF THE LEAST DEVELOPED COUNTRIES, THE MOST SERIOUSLY AFFECTED DEVELOPING COUNTRIES AND OTHER COUNTRIES IN NEED WHICH COULD PROVIDE GUIDANCE IN FUTURE OPERATIONS RELATING TO DEBT PROBLEMS

AS A BASIS FOR DEALING FLEXIBLY WITH INDIVIDUAL CASES."
IT IS OUR FIRM UNDERSTANDING THAT THIS IS THE ONLY
ASPECT OF DEBT TO BE SEPARATELY CONSIDERED AT THE
MINISTERIAL. THIS POSITION IS CONSISTENT WITH THE
NARROW MANDATE IN 94 (IV); IT IS OF PRIMARY IMPORTANCE
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THAT THE AGENDA REFLECT THIS STRICT INTERPRETATION.

5. IN THE LIGHT OF THE FAILURE TO AGREE AT CIEC ON A
CONTINUATION OF THE ENERGY DIALOGUE, WE ARE NOW ASSESSING
WHETHER, AND IF SO, WHEN, HOW, AND WHERE TO MAKE NEW
EFFORTS TOWARD THIS OBJECTIVE. THIS ASSESSMENT WILL
ALSO COVER THE QUESTION OF WHICH EXISTING FORUM WOULD
BE BEST SUITED FOR CONTINUATION OF THE ONGOING ENERGY
DIALOGUE. WE WILL BE DISCUSSING THESE QUESTIONS IN THE
IEA GOVERNING BOARD LATER THIS MONTH AS WELL AS BILATERALLY
WITH THE PRINCIPAL G-8 MEMBERS. UNDER THE CIRCUMSTANCES,
WE BELIEVE IT WOULD BE PREMATURE TO DECIDE NOW WHETHER
TO INCLUDE AN ITEM ON ENERGY IN TDB MINISTERIAL. WE
WOULD, HOWEVER, BE INTERESTED IN ANY VIEWS FROM OTHER
GROUP B COUNTRIES WHICH THE DELEGATION MIGHT PICK UP IN
THE COURSE OF THE JUNE CONSULTATIONS.

6. WITH REGARD TO THE POSSIBILITY OF POSTPONEMENT OF
MINISTERIAL PER GENEVA 4426, YOU MAY INDICATE THAT WE
WOULD HAVE NO PROBLEM WITH SUCH A DECISION. A RESCHEDULED
MINISTERIAL WHICH WOULD FOCUS INTER ALIA ON UNCTAD V PREP-
ARATIONS WOULD REQUIRE A BROAD AGENDA AS WE OUTLINED
ABOVE. WE ASSUME IN THIS CASE THAT JULY DEBT EXPERTS
MEETING ALSO WOULD BE RESCHEDULED AS WELL AS IMMEDIATELY
PRECEDING EXPERTS MEETING ON "INTERDEPENDENCE OF TRADE,
DEVELOPMENT FINANCE AND MONETARY ARRANGEMENTS" WHICH
APPEARS RELATED TO DEBT MEETING. HOWEVER, YOU SHOULD SEEK
TO HAVE NEW TIMING OF BOTH REPEAT BOTH MEETINGS MADE SUB-
JECT TO CONSULTATIONS WITH GROUP, AS WE MAY WISH TO COMMENT
ON NEED FOR EXPERTS MEETING ON INTERDEPENDENCE. VANCE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TRADE, FOREIGN MINISTERS MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 11-Jun-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
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From: STATE
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SAS ID: 2183166
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: TDB MINISTERIAL
TAGS: ETRD, OCON, UNCTAD, TDB, CIEC, TRADE DEVELOPMENT BOARD
To: GENEVA
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/b954e57e-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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